

ETS-HP-AD3977

~~TOP SECRET~~  
**EXCLUSIVE EYES ONLY**

72 OCT 23 PM 12.4

~~TOP SECRET~~ 230340Z OCT 72 VIA CAS CHANNELS (BUNKER)

FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER

CITE SAIGON 0228

TO: GENERAL HAIG, THE WHITE HOUSE, EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY FLASH

HAKTO 048

1. MY TWO-HOUR FIFTEEN MINUTE SESSION WITH THIEU THIS MORNING SERVED TO EASE THE ATMOSPHERE AND SHOULD BUY US SOME WEEKS OF QUIET HERE. AFTER HIS INITIAL STATE OF CONTINUED AGITATION I SUCCEEDED IN CALMING HIM DOWN AND THE MEETING ENDED ON A VERY CIVILIZED NOTE.

2. I TOLD HIM THAT WE WOULD NOT MOVE AHEAD UNILATERALLY OR GO ON FINAL LEG. I EMPHASIZED, ON THE OTHER HAND, THAT WE STOOD BY OUR POSITIONS; THE SETTLEMENT WAS SOUND AND THE BEST TERMS WE CAN GET; AND WE INTEND TO PURSUE IT, HOPEFULLY WITH HIS COOPERATION. I TOLD HIM THAT AT THE NEXT PRIVATE MEETING WITH THE NORTH VIETNAMESE I WOULD RAISE SOME OF HIS CONCERNS BUT I DID NOT BELIEVE THAT A MAJORITY OF THEM WERE OBTAINABLE. I POINTED OUT THAT DOMESTIC AND CONGRESSIONAL PRESSURES AGAINST US A FEW MONTHS FROM NOW WERE AN UNAVOIDABLE FACT OF LIFE. THIEU PROMISED TO THINK OVER THE SETTLEMENT AND CONVEIVABLY MAY DO SO, BUT GIVEN HIS TRACK RECORD WE SHOULD TAKE LITTLE COMFORT IN HIS PROMISE.

3. OUR JOB NOW IS TO KEEP BOTH HANOI AND SAIGON QUIET AND GET ON THE OFFENSIVE PUBLICLY WITH A CONFIDENT, POSITIVE POSTURE OF WORKING TOWARD AND NEARING AN AGREEMENT WITHOUT ELECTORAL CONSIDERATIONS INFLUENCING US.

~~TOP SECRET~~

MORI PER  
03230363

State Department review  
completed

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS  
APPLY